

CLAIMS:

1. A bone instrumentation cover or shield comprising:  
a hollow cap or casing portion which is dimensioned to be placed over and to encapsulate projecting parts of instrumentation installed in a bone, and  
a fastener portion provided at a lower edge of the cap or casing for securing it to adjacent bone areas or tissue or to parts of the instrumentation where it is installed in the bone.
2. A bone instrumentation cover or shield according to Claim 1, wherein the cap or casing is a rigid form shaped to fit over the projecting parts of the instrumentation.
3. A bone instrumentation cover or shield according to Claim 1, wherein the cap or casing in a rigid three-dimensional oval or parallelepiped for fitting over the projecting parts of the instrumentation.
4. A bone instrumentation cover or shield according to Claim 1, wherein the fastener portion includes a lower frame of the cap or casing provided with an aperture for the inserting the instrumentation having a toothed edge for locking the cap or casing onto parts of the instrumentation where installed adjacent the bone.
5. A bone instrumentation cover or shield according to Claim 4, wherein the instrumentation includes pedicle screws installed into the bone, and the toothed edge of the lower frame has teeth spacings for locking onto the pedicle screws.
6. A bone instrumentation cover or shield according to Claim 1, wherein the fastener portion includes sutures for attachment to adjacent parts of the instrumentation or to adjacent bone areas or tissues.

7. A bone instrumentation cover or shield according to Claim 1, wherein the fastener portion includes a lower frame of the cap or casing provided with an open, box-like aperture for the placement over the instrumentation

8. A bone instrumentation cover or shield according to Claim 1, wherein the cap or casing is a pliable or flexible pouch.

9. A bone instrumentation cover or shield according to Claim 8, wherein the fastener portion is formed by one or more drawstrings for cinching a lower edge of the pouch opening around projecting parts of the instrumentation mounted into or fastened to the bone.

10. A bone instrumentation cover or shield according to Claim 1, wherein the cap or casing is a pliable or flexible sheath.

11. A bone instrumentation cover or shield according to Claim 10, wherein the fastener portion is formed by a lower cinch ring having openings therein for threading through a number of suture strings for tightening the cap vertically down to the cinch ring over the instrumentation.

12. A bone instrumentation cover or shield according to Claim 11, wherein the cinch ring is a tubular form having one or more drawstrings therein for tightening it circumferentially (horizontally) around the instrumentation.

13. A bone instrumentation cover or shield according to Claim 1, wherein the cap or casing has displaceable parts for adjustment of its length, width, or height snugly around the instrumentation.

14. A bone instrumentation cover or shield according to Claim 13, wherein the displaceable parts of the cap or casing are formed with slidable panels.

15. A bone instrumentation cover or shield according to Claim 13, wherein the displaceable parts of the cap or casing are formed with pleats.

16. A method for preventing ingrowth and protecting surrounding soft tissue from instrumentation installed in a bone comprising:

encapsulating projecting parts of instrumentation installed in a bone in a hollow cap or casing portion which is dimensioned to be placed over and fit snugly around the instrumentation; and

fastening the cap or casing using a fastener portion provided at a lower edge of the cap or casing for securing it to adjacent bone areas or tissues or to parts of the instrumentation where it is installed in the bone.

17. A method according to Claim 16, wherein the cap or casing is a rigid three-dimensional form, and the fastener portion includes a lower frame of the cap or casing.

18. A method according to Claim 16, wherein the cap or casing is a flexible or pliable pouch, and the fastener portion includes one or more drawstrings.

19. A method according to Claim 16, wherein the cap or casing is a flexible or pliable sheath, and the fastener portion includes a cinch ring having suture strings tied to a lower edge of the sheath threaded there through.

20. A method according to Claim 16, wherein the fastener portion includes sutures attached to a lower edge of the cap or casing.